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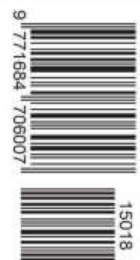
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Consistently charting on the bestseller list, Toyota's ubiquitous Etios is the recipient of further refinements for 2015.

While exterior enhancements are limited to a new colour option, Jet Grey Metallic (a shimmering mid-tone silver), it's indoors where the most discernible changes have taken place. All-new anthracite seat fabric with a subtle, tailored, stipple design translates into a more 'grown up' décor for the Xs models.

In addition, a new audio system has been adopted for Etios (standard on Xs). This factory fitted double-din unit features Bluetooth functionality and is neatly integrated into the dashboard; the piano black finish with chrome trim elegantly mirrors the metallic bezels adorning the centralised instruments as well as the ventilation controls.

In keeping with the quality feel, the luggage compartment cover now features a lift function

on all hatchback models.

In summary, here's a list of all the quality and aesthetic enhancements the Etios has received since its introduction in May 2012:

- A new grille design.
- Colour-coding across the range for door mirrors and handles.
- A new aero design exterior mirror with aero stabilising fins.
- A new tail lamp design.
- Re-profiled front and rear seat design with adjustable headrests for Xs models.
- Seat belt retensioners for front passengers.
- Auto-Up electric window function on the driver's door.
- Redesigned central instrument cluster with Ice Blue backlighting, enlarged LCD display for enhanced clarity and digital clock – the latter is on Xs models only.
- Lights-on warning as well as seat belt and door ajar warning buzzers (Xs).

- Ergonomically and aesthetically enhanced ventilation controls.
- Improved NVH package which included a switch from rubber engine mounts to more refined, sound-absorbing hydraulic mounts. The silencer was also modified for enhanced insulation and the damper settings were adjusted to filter out suspension noise and improve ride quality.
- Improved carpet quality for the luggage compartment.
- Luggage cover with lift function.
- All-new tailored upholstery trim for Xs models.

Beneath the finery is the same punchy 1.5-litre, 4-cylinder mill (coupled to a 5-speed manual transmission) whacking out a laudable 66 kW at 5 600 rpm and 132 Nm of torque at 3 000 rpm, endowing the light-weight Etios with a class-leading sub-11-second sprint time to 100 km/h. Fuel economy is pegged at 5,9 L / 100 km for the sedan and 6 L / 100

km for the hatch in the combined cycle.

Kaizen, or continuous improvement, is a phrase coined by Toyota and the latest incarnation of the Etios is proof that it really works. With a class-leading 1.5-litre engine, generous spec, ample safety kit, affordable price tag and now some extra polish thanks to its evolutionary refinement, the Toyota Etios is a very worthy bestseller.

The best news is that these improvements haven't come at a price... The latest refresher has resulted in a symbolic R100 price hike across the range. (Please note that all Etios models come standard with a two-year/ 30 000km service plan.)

Etios 1.5 HB Xi	R139 900
Etios 1.5 HB Xs	R149 400
Etios 1.5 SD Xi	R146 800
Etios 1.5 SD Xs	R156 100
Etios Cross	R171 400

PROMOTION

IT JUST KEEPS GETTING BETTER

Toyota improves on the winning Etios formula



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VAN DYCK

WELCOME

I recently visited the London Design Festival, a great platform for discovering the latest colours, designs and trends. One of my favourite aspects of the shows is the inspirational talks given by some of the industry's leading experts in many disciplines. They renew, refresh and affirm why I love what I do. This year, it was great to see designers having fun and creating talking points such as the scribble fabric by Kirkby Design, or making you smile, which Portuguese furniture studio Galula definitely did with their side table supported by cute little yellow duck feet. Read more about what inspired me on page 74.

Travelling is certainly inspirational, but I have also discovered that you don't need to travel far and wide to find inspiration. This year I was fortunate to be a judge on SABC3's *Win A Home* competition. Twelve aspiring designers were given the challenge to transform three apartments in Umhlanga Ridge. It was such a pleasure visiting the site each week to see what each of the teams had managed to do in the space they were given. I was blown away by the talent we have in South Africa, it really makes me excited for the future of design in this country. You can see some of the rooms on page 66.

It's no surprise that people are happier and more productive when they work in a well-designed environment. I'm sure the employees who work for wi-fi company Ruckus find the quirky design of their office space uplifting and very on trend for what's happening in the world of design (see page 40).

Our gift to you in this issue is a 2016 calendar, filled with inspirational images from this year's issues of SPACES. I hope your 2016 is your most beautiful and colourful year yet.



ANNE ROSELT
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Do you have any DIY projects lined up for 2016?

We're moving overseas, so I'll have the challenge of injecting personality into a furnished apartment. I plan to take along loads of framed family photos and display all my favourite tea cups.

What's your current colour crush?

Navy in clothes, nail polish, walls...

The colour you steer clear of?

Orange has never been good for anyone.

Your most colourful possession?

My bold red leather handbag. I searched far and wide for it, and it's perfect!

Your favourite colourful landmark?

I still need to see the giant pineapple in the Eastern Cape!

Which décor trends are exciting you?

Navy and copper, and the use of matt metallic – it adds a wonderful sense of opulence without the kitsch factor.



LIEZEL NORVAL-KRUGER,
STYLIST

What's your current colour crush?

Sludgy grey-blue. It reminds me of the ocean, summer and the sky just before sunset.

The colour you steer clear of?

Purple. Lilac is too sweet, mauve too stuffy, violet is too bright and indigo is probably just too mystical for me...

Your most colourful possession?

My bright red patent leather Carvela loafers.

Your favourite colourful landmark?

The neat rows of orange umbrellas on the grey pebble beaches of Positano on the Amalfi coast of Italy. To me they epitomise *la dolce vita*.

Which décor trends are exciting you?

The pale dusty pink that made a surprise appearance in design last year. It's peppered through everything from crystal glassware to minimalist Nordic furniture, handmade ceramics and even contemporary lighting.



LENÉ ROUX,
SPACES ART DIRECTOR

Do you have any DIY projects lined up for 2016?

There's always a project on the horizon in our house! We're currently planning a plywood-and-metal cabinet for the balcony with a shelf for plants to liven up the space.

Your current colour crush?

I'm a slave to black and grey, but if I had to pick a real colour it would be a dark blue. I painted our bedroom in Plascon's Urban Rock and have fallen in love with the colour.

Your favourite colourful landmark?

You've got to love the Paul Smith shop on the corner of Bree and Wale streets in Cape Town – it has a big blue circle painted on the wall.

Which décor trends are exciting you?

Copper, marble and anything Scandinavian.

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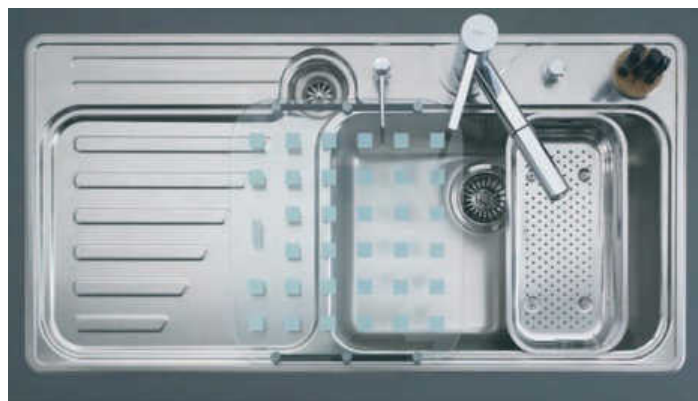
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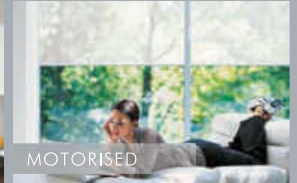
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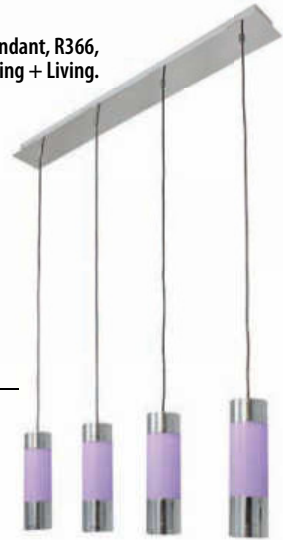


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Tropico suspension lamp,
R25 063, Créma Design.



Eurolux pendant, R366,
Glolighting + Living.



Skye London sunglasses
R129, zando.co.za.



Millefiori candle,
R210, @home.



Rimmel nail polish, R69, zando.co.za.



Diane von Furstenberg Lilac
Leopard carpet, R16 275/m²,
The Rug Company.

A high-fashion favourite, Plascon's Purple Path is guaranteed to update your interior, whether on a feature wall or echoed in a handful of choice accessories.

PLASCON PURPLE PATH (P2-A1-3) DISCOVERY THEME FORECAST 2016



26-cm Le Creuset classic 4.1 litre soup pot, R2 374, yuppiechef.com.

Sue Timney Alphabet V cushion, R2 850, The Rug Company.



Clinton Friedman scatter cushion, R595, africandy.com.

Togo three-seater couch, from R50 368, Ligne Roset.



Compleat food bag, R150, yuppiechef.com.

Mini dyed purple jade, midi ametrine, R300, maxi purple amethyst, R420, all Kirsten Goss.



CODE RED



DOLCE & GABBANA

Bella Linea sport rocket blender,
R449, yuppiechef.com.



Biegert & Funk Tsen Qlocktwo touch
clock, R8 675, Glolighting + Living.



Tara Bernerd Miss Shady Pink cushion,
R 8 900, The Rug Company.



Bali espresso cup and saucer set, R129, @home.

Facett large settee,
from R69 120,
Ligne Roset.



Plascon's Strawberry Daiquiri turns up the volume on the classic primary hue, with unapologetically eye-catching results.

PLASCON STRAWBERRY DAIQUIRI (EC 100) DISCOVERY THEME FORECAST 2016

Naica lamp,
R10 720, Ligne Roset.



Nespresso Inissia automatic espresso machine
with Aeroccino, R2 250, yuppiechef.com.



Eva Solo My Big Tea Pot,
R799, yuppiechef.com.



Illumina Infinity floor lamp,
R1 199, superbalist.com.



Daniel Wellington Classy Oxford
watch, R1 699, superbalist.com.



Smeg stand mixer,
R6 999, @home.



ANTONIO DE MORAES BARROS FILHO

EVERYTHING'S JUST PEACHY



GIDEON

David TruBridge coral pendant,
R7 406, Glolighting + Living.

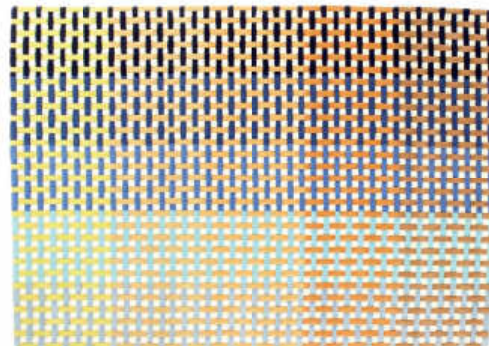


Kaufmann oak three-seater sofa, R21 900, Birba.

Mini coral dyed jade
ball, R120,
Kirsten Goss.



Studio.W bamboo pebble oval plate,
R55, Woolworths.



Entrelacs rug,
R32 480,
Ligne Roset.

Shedding their 80s associations, shades such as Plascon's Peach Dawn are proving their versatility in everything from high-fashion to interior design.

PLASCON PEACH DAWN (04-B2-1) HEIRLOOM THEME FORECAST 2016



Vera Moda Natalia necklace, R199, superbalist.com.



Sue Timney Alphabet B cushion, R2 850, The Rug Company.



Studio.W scatter cushion, R180, Woolworths.



Muuto Connect sofa system, R66 848, Créma Design.



Country Road Wells basket, R499, Woolworths.



AMFAR INSPIRATION GALA

DARKNESS FALLS



MAX MARA

Aplomb
suspension
lamps, R8 906,
Créma Design.



Rhombus chair,
R1 199,
@home.



Plum boot, R599, zando.com.



Croissant sofa, R58 495, Weylandts.

Not quite black, not quite brown, Plascon's Ewa adds gravitas to any look, be it as the main attraction or in a supporting role.

PLASCON EWA (EC 72) ELEMENT THEME FORECAST 2016

Nanimarquina Luna rug,
R39 694, Créma Design.



Fossil Grant watch, R2 499, superbalist.com.

Angela bed, from
R3 499, @home.



Nomad Home Sumatra side table,
R1 599, superbalist.com.



Rasusu dining chair,
R2 995, Weylandts.



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YOUNG AT HEART

Four trendy student pads in sassy shades from Plascon's 2016 Colour Forecast hit the spot for studying, chilling and those all-important power-nap sessions.



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AND **MAYBE CORPACI/KING JULIET PRODUCTIONS**
TEXT **ILZE HUGO**

POLKA DOT DREAMS

This laid-back, girly pad goes dotty in tranquil, yet eye-catching, pastel shades from Plascon's Element palette.



Plascon colours, clockwise from bottom right: Winter Haven (B2-E2-3), Ewa (EC 72), Savanna (R3-E23), Mamello (B5-A2-1), Antique Petal (EC 43) and Ravine (EC 62).

GET THIS LOOK

- Paint the wall's base colour in Plascon Cashmere Ravine (EC 62).
- Cut out a selection of paper circles in three sizes, then arrange them on the wall in a pattern you like. When you are happy with the arrangement, draw the circles onto acetate, cut out stencils, place them on the wall and then sponge over the stencils using Plascon Cashmere Winter Haven (B2-E2-3).
- The circular theme is echoed in the décor, from the scatter cushions and ottomans to the desk lamps.
- The two ottomans next to the bed are multifunctional – use them as bedside tables or as chairs when friends come to visit.

ONE ROOM, FOUR LOOKS



LIEZEL, SAYS: "THIS ONE'S A HAPPY, LIGHTEARTED, GIRLY ROOM."

Accessories: Double base and mattress, Tafelberg Furnishers. Linen bedding, Weylandts. Printed cushion, Loft Living. Dot cushion, Country Road. Denim shorts, Billabong. Cylindrical seating, Indigi Designs. Cement lamp (on ottoman), Abode. Sunglasses, Céline at Safilo. Wide brim hat, Kingdom. Desk, Pedersen + Lennard. Replica Eames chair, Chair Crazy. Faceted planter, Notation Design at Present Space. Mac Book Pro 13 inch, Apple iStore. Halos desk lamp, Leg Studio Design at Present Space. Stone plant holder, Abode. Notebooks, The Deckle Edge and Present Space. Camera candle, Sobeit at Kingdom (on windowsill).

LIFE'S A BEACH

The surf's always up in this tropical-inspired crib, decked out in hues from Plascon's Heritage palette.



Carpet, Fibre Design. Plascon colours, clockwise from bottom right: Starlight Express (Y5-E1-3), Black Bean (EC 71), Peak Season (Y5-B1-3), Beach Wood (Y3-D2-1), Red Wine (R1-D1-1) and Nautilus (B6-D1-1).

GET THIS LOOK

- Décor was chosen with the theme in mind: palm tree prints, tropical plants, warm colours and a host of handmade and textural elements such as wood and African fabrics.
- Paint the walls using Plascon Cashmere Black Bean (EC 71). Echo the same colour in the bed linen, creating the illusion that the bed recedes into the wall, allowing the paint colour to be the hero.
- To recreate the typographic paint effect on the wall, choose a typeface and word, then enlarge and print your letters. Cut them out using a craft knife, attach to the wall with Prestik and trace the outlines. Mask off the edges of the letters with masking tape, then paint them in the Heirloom palette colours of your choice. We used Plascon Cashmere Red Wine (R1-D1-1), Nautilus (B6-D1-1), Peak Season (Y5-B1-3) and white. If you want to recreate the gradient effect in each letter, use a sponge to lightly blend the areas where the colours overlap.
- Intersperse pictures stacked on floating shelving with pictures hung on the wall for an interesting décor effect.



LIEZEL SAYS:
“THIS STUDENT
PAD WAS
INSPIRED BY
THE BEACHES,
SURFER CULTURE
AND TROPICAL
VIBES OF
DURBAN.”

Accessories: Carpet, Fibre Designs. Double base and mattress, Tafelberg Furnishers. Linen, Weylandts. Mud cloth, LIM. Patterned blanket, Africa Nova. Palm cushion, Stable. Leather cushion, Pedersen + Lennard. Tank tee and bucket hat, both Billabong. Wire stool, La Grange. Side table, Saks Corner. Bedside lamp, La Grange. Sunglasses, Ray-Ban at Luxottica. Wallet, Billabong. Watch, WeWood at Kingdom. Glass mug with wooden saucer, Weylandts. Storage box, Africa Nova. Replica Acapulco chair, Chair Crazy. Printed towel, Weylandts. Shakira occasional chair, Weylandts. Frames on wall, Country Road and Weylandts. Macramé plant hanger, LIM. Surfboard, Boardyard at Stable. Wooden planter, Abode. All plants, Starke Ayres Garden Centre.

PRISM BREAK

Geometric patterns and feisty pops of colour from Plascon's Connect palette shape this student sanctuary.



Wire house, Abode.
Geometric ceramic
container, Mawaaz
Faldulker at Stable.
Woodless charcoal
pencils, The Deckle
Edge. Plascon colours,
clockwise from bottom
left, Atlantic Beach
(B5-B1-1), Light
Reflection (Y6-A2-3),
Strawberry Daiquiri
(EC 100), Ruby Tuesday
(R5-B2-2) and New
Meadow (Y7-A1-3).

GET THIS LOOK

- Clean lines and smooth surfaces in metal, plastic and glass and the repetition of geometric shapes (from the wall to the décor) tie this room together.
- Keep the base colours black and white, then add accents of bright colours of your choice from the Connect palette. We used Plascon Cashmere New Meadow (Y7-A1-3), Atlantic Beach (B5-B1-1), Ruby Tuesday (R5-B2-2) and Strawberry Daiquiri (EC 100). For the base colour, we used Light Reflection (Y6-A2-3) and for the linework, Dark Onyx (EC 42).
- To recreate the geometric pattern on the wall, start by drawing a baseline (a horizontal straight line from which the rest of the pattern can be measured). Cut a small and larger triangle from a piece of cardboard, then use them to mark out the pattern on the wall with a ruler. Mask off the edges and paint the triangles in the colours of your choice. Use a ruler and the small triangle to mark out a geometric pattern around the coloured triangles, mask off the outside edges, then paint the lines in Dark Onyx.

ONE ROOM, FOUR LOOKS

LIEZEL SAYS:
"GEOMETRIC
PATTERNS ARE
A HUGE TREND
AT THE MOMENT.
I IMAGINE THAT
THIS ROOM
WOULD SUIT
A GRAPHIC
DESIGN OR
ARCHITECTURE
STUDENT."



Accessories: Double base and mattress, Tafelberg Furnishers. Linen bedding, Weylandts. Replica Eames chair, Chair Crazy. Geometric print cushion, Indigi Designs. Backpack, Chapel. Sneakers, Havaianas. Carpet, Fibre Design. Steel-and-glass side table, Indigi Designs. Desk, @home. Steel stools, Chair Crazy. Lamp, Present Space. Frames and prints, Abode. Bookends, Eleven Past. iPad stand, Pedersen + Lennard. iPad, Apple at iStore. Headphones, Skull Candy. Design Times newspaper, Abode. In the background: wooden houses, Loft Living.

BEAM ME UP

Featuring hues from Plascon's Discovery palette, the décor inspiration in this scape spans the cosmos, from the streets of Mzansi to a galaxy far, far away.



Geometric shapes painted in, clockwise from left, Purple Path (P2-A1-3), Light Blue Green (G6-A2-2), Morning Sigh (EC 6) and Big Blue Star (P1-A1-1).

GET THIS LOOK

- The look is very minimalist and devoid of clutter with clean lines and a smattering of space-inspired props such as the picture on the wall, the fabric-covered chair (the print is reminiscent of the surface of a planet), metal capsule and footstool.
- To recreate the paint effect, first decide how broad you want your beams to be, then measure out vertical lines, marking them up using coloured chalk.
 - Start painting the different beams of colour from one side, using a different brush for each colour. We used Plascon Cashmere Morning Sigh (EC 6) as the base colour, and Plascon Cashmere Light Blue Green (G6-A2-2), and Jessie's Blue (B2-C2-1) for the stripes.
 - Use the three brushes to blend where two different colours meet.

ONE ROOM, FOUR LOOKS



LIEZEL SAYS: "FOR THE WALL, I WANTED TO CREATE AN OMBRE
LIGHT BEAM EFFECT WITH GRADED LINES."

Accessories: Double base and mattress, Tafelberg Furnishers. Linen, Weylandts. Pillowcases, Woolworths. Scarf, Karienbelle at Kingdom. Stool, Indigi Designs. Sneakers, Wild Alice at Queue Shoes. Metal capsule, La Grange. Mug, Country Road. Brass and crystal cuffs, Matter of Fakt. Plastic graphic chair, Eleven Past. Dress, August at Nap Living. Printed fabric and oak chair, Leon. Print on wall, Amy Kevvy at Present Space.

HEAD OVER HEELS FOR HUES

When a man loves a woman like Bart loves Sacha, he's more than happy to let go of his minimalist bachelor style in favour of the eclectic, multicoloured milieu favoured by his sweetheart.



PHOTOGRAPHS **IVAR JANSSEN** PRODUCTION **FEATURES & MORE** TEXT **WILMA CUSTERS**



This page: Sacha and Bart Engels painted one wall of their dining room in a light green (suggested colour Plascon Double Velvet Mint Touch G4-B2-2) to add a splash of brightness. Opposite: Colour and vintage finds characterise the home.

When graphic designer Bart Engels bought his 1920s house in 2008, he hadn't yet met his wife Sacha. "But then she brought new colour into my life and later into my home!" recalls the still-smitten Bart. "Most walls in my home were white, except for one, which was brown..."

"As a graphic designer, Bart was actually quite inspired by my love of working with colours," adds visual arts teacher Sacha. "After I moved in, he didn't mind me trying out the odd colour. Slowly he was also infected with the colour bug." Commenting on the eccentric combinations of bright hues used in their home, Sacha says, "I have always experimented with different combinations. Often I buy the paint colour I have in mind, but sometimes I also throw different leftovers together and see what comes out. These are usually the best surprises, but impossible to repeat."

Before Sacha moved in, Bart favoured a more minimalist, masculine interior, adorned with a choice smattering of vintage furniture, retro pieces and his own collection of art, mainly purchased on his travels. Sacha, on the other hand, had always lived with a more feminine style and a bit more clutter. "I used flowery wallpapers and had numerous bits and pieces in my interior." When she moved in, though, the two came up with a compromise that suited both their tastes. Sacha smoothed the edges of her feminine style a bit and made her use of colour and accessories more subtle.

"I skipped the flowery patterns and designs, but Bart was happy to start using fresh colours in the house," she says. "Today he doesn't mind when he arrives home after work and finds out that the wall in the living room is green!"

Bart was also happy to adapt his pared-down style by including more pieces of furniture. "The funny thing is that we both share a passion for vintage and retro furniture and accessories," he says. "I already had my own pieces and Sacha brought in hers, so it was easy enough to blend it all together."

Fast-forward a couple of years, and the couple are happy in their kaleidoscopically coloured home – even more so now that they're proud parents to son, Puk. "It's fun that our home's interior is in a fairly constant flow of changes," says Sacha. "Bart and I both believe that the most important thing is that your interior expresses who you are and what you stand for. It shouldn't be a page of an interior catalogue or book. We think that we have achieved this in our home."



A PEEK INSIDE...

... THE LOUNGE (opposite)

The pale blue colour (suggested colour Plascon Double Velvet Mediterranean Mist G6-C2-3) in the lounge area was chosen instinctively by Sacha. "It's fairly dark at the front of the house and I just wanted to keep it fresh. I'm currently waiting for new ideas to match the pale blue. It will happen..."

... THE KITCHEN (bottom left)

The heart of the home was painted in the same pale blue used in the lounge area and it works well here with the abundance of daylight. A vintage map does the trick on the wall, while a tablecloth made by Sacha with two different pieces of fabric adds a cheeky pop of colour. The yellow chairs from the 1970s were found in a local junk store and complete the look.

... THE MASTER BEDROOM (page 38)

The master bedroom has been through quite a few changes already. Currently, the wall behind the headboard, flanked by a collection of quirky artworks, is painted a striking dark grey (suggested colour Plascon Double Velvet Ewa EC 72). The antique wardrobe used to be dark brown, but Sacha "cheered it up" with a splash of blue (suggested colour Plascon Velvagio Blue Bottle Blue B2-A1-4) to great effect.

... PUK'S PLAY AREA (top left)

Puk's play area was completely hand-made by Sacha. "I'm quite proud of the result! I bought some wood, some paint, a hammer, some fabric and a few potatoes. I simply stamped the triangles using the potato on the white cotton and made a little curtain. The desk, the shelf and the blackboard above were simple. Puk can now store his toys behind the curtain or can use the empty space underneath as a tent. He adores this 'personal' corner!"

... PUK'S BEDROOM (page 37)

"At first all the walls were painted in my favourite tone of green, but then I decided that it needed some contrast," says Sacha, who painted the bottom half of one of the walls dark grey (suggested colour Plascon Double Velvet Ewa EC 72) and the top half a neutral off-white (suggested colour Plascon Double Velvet Off Shore EC 50). On another wall, she created a pattern using a potato stamp dipped in black paint.

The light blue walls in the lounge are complemented by a grey couch accessorised with colourful cushions.





"BART WAS QUITE INSPIRED BY MY LOVE
OF **WORKING WITH COLOURS**. SLOWLY HE
WAS ALSO INFECTED BY THE **COLOUR BUG**."
– SACHA ENGELS

This page: Puk's bedroom is a rich range of colours and patterns. Sacha and Bart stripped off the old floor paint to expose the original wooden floors. The bottom half of the wall is painted grey (suggested Plascon colour Double Velvet Ewa EC 72) for contrast. Opposite: The green wall in Puk's play area is the same colour as the dining room. Sacha added the triangular potato prints on the other wall.





"BART AND I BOTH
BELIEVE THAT THE
MOST **IMPORTANT THING**
IS THAT **YOUR HOME**
EXPRESSES WHO YOU
ARE." – SACHA ENGELS



This page, clockwise from top left: Sacha painted the wardrobe blue to “cheer it up”; a mini moodboard adds colour to a wall in the master bedroom; the Portuguese tiles on the bathroom floor inject pattern; figurines gallop across the top of the mirror on Sacha’s dressing table. Opposite: The master bedroom is a calm, restful space.



SIGNALLING CHANGE

When the local branch of dynamic wi-fi company Ruckus felt its ho-hum office wasn't doing its brand justice, interior specialist Astrid van der Heim stepped up to the challenge, armed with a vivid orange palette from Plascon.





Opposite: Graffiti artists Byron and Elaine Guenther of Sweettooth designed and painted the graffiti at the offices of wi-fi company Ruckus in Johannesburg against the backdrop of bright orange Plascon Cedarburg (04-A1-1) and Mellow Glow (Y3-A1-4). This page: The company's logo, a barking dog, was incorporated throughout.



"THIS EFFECT **SOFTENED** THE VERY POWERFUL **COLOUR**
AND **REFRACTED** EXACTLY AS PLANNED"
– ASTRID VAN DER HEIM

The dog motif represents the service Ruckus provides, "barking" information over wireless networks.



A WIFI ZONE

Ruckus Wireless Inc. – a global supplier of wireless systems – is a company that believes its product is one worth barking about. It's also a company that has a sense of humour, which is clearly reflected in its corporate logo of a dog woofing up a storm. For the South African team, based in Waterfall City, this fun ethos wasn't being conveyed by their office space, which was adorned in unimaginative shades of grey and white. "We wanted something fun, something that reflects our brand," says sales director Michael Fletcher. "We're quirky and still make awesome wifi. We wanted to show this in our office's design; for it to be a place that would make an impression and mostly be a fun place to work." Lucky for Michael, Joburg-based interior specialist Astrid van der Heim from Van der Heim Interiors isn't one to shy away from a challenge, and when he approached her to inject the space with the va-va-voom needed to do it justice, she brought her A-game. "Having met the team, it was clear to me that they're very professional, yet fun," she says.

would come across too strongly. The solution presented itself during a eureka moment on a drive home. "It was a winter's evening on the Highveld, and the sky was breathtakingly beautiful with many different shades of the same colours," she says. "I knew then what I had to do." Astrid roped in the help of graffiti artists Byron Guenther and wife Elaine from company Sweettooth, who started by painting the base of the walls in Plascon's Double Velvet in Cedarburg (04-A1-1) and overspraying it using Plascon Double Velvet in Mellow Glow (Y3-A1-4) in a gradient effect to recreate the look of a winter sunset. "This effect softened the very powerful colour and refracted exactly as planned under the fluorescent light," says Astrid.

THE WRITING'S ON THE WALL

The undisputed pièce de résistance of the office's new look is the graffiti work that Byron and Elaine created in the meeting rooms. "The clients are huge fans of street art," explains Astrid. "It's very contemporary and streetwise – the perfect medium to tell the Ruckus story." The content, Astrid explains, was informed by the various iconic symbols of the cities in which the respective Ruckus offices are situated: the London Eye and the Gherkin for the UK; a church and street scene for the US; and the Ponte tower for Johannesburg. Continuing the colour theme, Byron and Elaine used Plascon's Cedarburg and Mellow

Glow and black for the outlines. "The outlines imparted a comic strip feel, making it easier to tell the story," says Astrid. So as not to detract from the impact of the graffiti, no whiteboards were fixed to the wall. Instead, Michael came up with the ingenious solution of having glass placed on top of the tables so that they could easily scribble up a storm during meetings and then wipe it all off when they're done.

THE DOG DAYS AREN'T OVER

It goes without saying that the Ruckus office makeover wouldn't be complete without the inclusion of the feisty dog from its logo. It can be seen in a stuffed toy incarnation, peeping around the corner in the hallway, and barking up a storm in illustrations featured in the meeting rooms and lounge, painted in Plascon Polvin in Black (EPL 48). "The dog was a must for the story," says Astrid. "It's a fun way of showing that dogs are understood to convey their news by barking; from dog to dog and area to area. This is a fun interpretation of wireless signals, bounced from device to device; transferring information from one space to the other. It's a lighthearted way of interpreting a very necessary service, which Ruckus facilitates." Michael adds to this, saying, "No one is holding the leash, because we set our own destiny." Indeed, with its brand-new guise, the office space of Ruckus South Africa is testament to the power of creativity, once unleashed.

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ORANGE, AMPLIFIED

Deciding on a colour scheme was a no-brainer, according to Astrid, as the client stipulated that they wanted orange – one of their corporate colours. While Astrid loved the powerful, yet harmonious aspects of the hue, she felt that using it as a flat colour



"THE GRAFFITI IS VERY CONTEMPORARY AND STREETWISE – THE PERFECT MEDIUM TO TELL THE RUCKUS STORY – ASTRID VAN DER HEIM

Left: The Ruckus offices are a relaxed space in which employees are free to take a break on the comfortable couches. Opposite: Interior specialist Astrid van der Heim breathed life into the Ruckus offices.



BOKS-ING CLEVER

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Upon happening on the perfect plot of land, architect Sanne Boks pounced at the opportunity to design a house tailor-made for her family and fill it with treasures that tell their story.

A yellow wall (suggested colour Plascon Double Velvet Golden Daffodil Y3-A1-1) is an eye-catching feature.



A SERENDIPITOUS DRIVE-BY

When architect Sanne Boks and her family accidentally drove past an empty plot on a sunny day in June 2012, they stopped the car and she and husband Michiel's kids immediately started playing in the grass.

"The sun was shining through the trees and I fell in love instantly," says Sanne. "What a wonderful place, surrounded by lots of green, but still close to the village centre."

Because the house is built in the historical village of Blaricum in northern Holland, which is home to loads of traditional colonial houses, the council dictated that a house that would seamlessly blend in with the surrounding houses be built. Luckily, Sanne had a vision that would both be true to her aesthetic, while not looking out of place among the neighbouring houses. "The house is made up of two traditionally styled and detailed barn-like masses, each with a peaked roof, that are pushed together," she explains. "We made use of traditional materials such as blackened gunwale façade sections, dark red bricks and a red tiled roof. At the rear of the house, the garden side, an all-glass façade, wrapped in natural stained wooden frames, rises up to the ridge. This gives a spectacular view of the garden and area from all floors of the villa."

"THE ROOMS' SEPARATE FUNCTIONS ARE CLEVERLY DISTINGUISHED BY THE USE OF DIFFERENT MATERIALS AND THE USE OF COLOUR. EVERYONE IS ABLE TO FIND THEIR OWN PLACE AND STILL IT'S ALL PART OF A WHOLE."
– SANNE BOKS

THE STUFF OF STORIES

Inside, the voluminous spaces flow into each other without losing their own identities. The rooms' separate functions are cleverly distinguished by the use of different materials in the floors, the use of colour, as well as sturdy glass doors made of steel. "Everyone is able to find their own place and still it's all part of a whole," says Sanne. On the ground floor, the living area, kitchen and dining area are one continuous space. The walls and ceiling



are a stark white, creating a sense of airy spaciousness. But far from being a minimalist retreat, the space is energised by the odd pop of colour, warm materials, and furniture and accessories with their own stories.

"Whether it's the retro 70s butterfly chair I got from my parents or the old trunk from my granddad that he used during the war, everything has a special meaning to us." The curiosity cabinet in the living room, especially, is held dear by the Boksés, as it's filled with trinkets from a host of family members. "It holds an antique camera, a painting by my great-grandmother and an old perfume bottle," says Sanne. "You can also find many bowls and plates throughout the house that we collected from our trips."

NOT-SO RANDOM ACTS OF COLOUR

The bedrooms and bathroom are located on the first storey. A couples' retreat of note, the main bedroom is spacious, bright and serene thanks to its white walls and the double-volume, wood-framed windows overlooking the garden. It's decorated subtly and sparsely, allowing the garden view to do most of the talking. The bathroom is also bright and uncluttered. The light grey floor, white walls and sanitaryware and blonde wood bathroom cabinet lend a Zen-like serenity to the space, while the semi-transparent windows allow plenty of light to shine through while still affording the family some privacy.

In contrast to this, the kids' rooms, belonging to six-year-old Teun, four-year-old Jikke and three-month-old Douwe, are aburst with colour and quirkiness, whether it's the multi-hued car-patterned wallpaper and toy sailboats in Teun's room, or the bright fuchsia geometric rug, miscellany of soft toys and baby-pink walls of Jikke's. Indeed, the house the Boksés built is one of quiet spaces and raucous ones, pared-down hues and vivid brights, exuberant laughter and the odd teary tantrum. In short, a real family home. Just like the one Sanne first envisioned creating that fateful sunny day back in 2012.

This page, from top: The house consists of two barn-like structures pushed together; the double-height glass doors flood the interior with natural light. It's furnished with family heirlooms such as the trunk that belonged to Sanne's grandfather; the kitchen's walls are painted white and the floor is polished concrete, which allow the family's personality to shine through.

A rustic green cabinet is offset against a modern couch.



“THE KIDS’ ROOMS ARE ABURST WITH **COLOUR** AND **QUIRKINESS**”



Sanne and Michiel's neutral-toned bedroom (suggested colour Plascon Double Velvet Off Shore EC 50) is enlivened with bursts of colour. Opposite: Daughter Jikke's room is painted a delicate pink (suggested colour Plascon Double Velvet Petticoat Tails R4-B2-2).



ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

A vibrant, contemporary space set in Cape Town's Langa, the Guga S'Thebe Theatre uses colour, design, recycling and creativity to bring the community together.

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Opposite: The upstairs backstage area of the Guga S'Thebe Theatre in Langa is painted in Plascon's Panorama Lights (Y4-A1-2). This page: The theatre is an extension of the Guga S'Thebe Arts and Culture Centre.



LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD

Reinventing an urban space is not an easy job. But for the community of Langa, in partnership with the City of Cape Town, project architect Carin Smuts of CSS Studio Architects, local and international architecture students and funding from project initiator Kristina Bacht from AIT ArchitekturSalon, it was the perfect opportunity to uplift the area. The aim of the Guga S'thebe Theatre is not only to provide a platform for arts, dance, crafts, culture and heritage, but to also educate by promoting a reflective process of building, creating an awareness of new economically viable architecture methods. Built as an extension of the Guga S'thebe Arts and Culture Centre, the theatre is rich in history and cultural references. It's named after a popular Xhosa idiom, "*Guga S'thebeKudala Usophulela*", which means to pay homage to an old serving platter used to provide service, friendliness and nourishment for future endeavours to people from all backgrounds.

RECYCLING SAVVY

Building began in 2013 and has been a long process with many volunteers lending a hand. The multifunctional space is made up of 11 shipping containers that are stacked to form a horseshoe shape around the main theatre, which seats 200 people.

"The idea to recycle shipping containers came from wanting to use locally available, reusable materials," explains Nora Müller from the TWTH Aachen University in Germany. "Cape Town's harbour was a big inspiration for the design and pushed us to think outside the box with sustainable insulation and cladding."

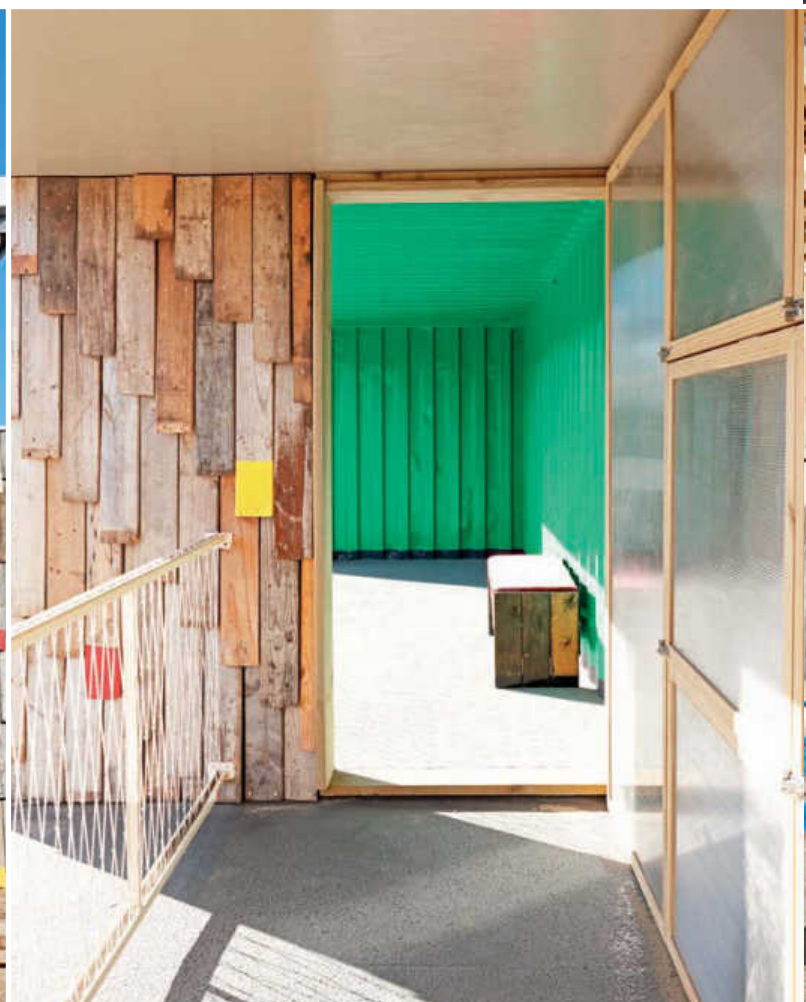
The thermal skin of the theatre is made from straw and clay, which keeps the interior cool in summer and warm in winter. This was then clad with recycled planks from old wooden fruit crates to create a layered and textured effect. The space also embraces colour through mosaic work, weaving and a garden, which is currently being planned and will be planted soon.

CUE THE HUES

Plascon provided the colour palette for the project, consisting mainly of primary colours including Golf Greens (G4-A1-1), Strawberry Daiquiri (EC 100), New Meadow (Y7-A1-3), Panorama Lights (Y4-A1-2) and 2016's Colour of the Year, Atlantic Beach (B5-B1-1). Each colour is used to highlight the different containers with the main stage walls remaining neutral. "In Europe it's trendy to leave things as is, but we found that painting the space elevated the meaning and created something completely different to the plain shipping containers," says Nora.

"We wanted to create a joyful building that functions as a canvas for performance, music, dance and exhibitions. The colours we used also represent the unique process of the project and the involvement of several hundred students, community members and specialists working with what was available and turning recycled materials into a creative space." cssstudio.co.za; tel: 021 433 1334

Below, from left: The walls are clad with shingles made from recycled fruit crates; Plascon's vibrant Golf Greens (G4-A1-1) greets you when looking from the balcony onto the outdoor stage. Opposite, clockwise from top left: A mosaic and stone piece at the arts and crafts centre; the welcoming exterior; the main stage seats 200 people and the kitchen connects to this area via a hatch for serving; the theatre's kitchen is painted in bold Strawberry Daiquiri (EC 100) – recycled plastic crates provide storage.





OUT OF AFRICA

Upon returning to the Netherlands from SA with her family, interior designer Pippa Kröner imported a dash of Mzansi style into their 18th-century farmhouse.



PHOTOGRAPHS AND STYLING **PEGGY JANSSEN** TEXT **MIRJAM ENZERINK**



The walls, ceiling and trims are painted in neutral tones reminiscent of an African safari (suggested colour Plascon Double Velvet and Water-based Velvaglo Dried Leaf EC 31). Opposite: The house was built in 1776 and still has its original window frames.

IF YOU GO DOWN TO THE WOODS TODAY ...

Set in the middle of thicketed woodlands in the east of the Netherlands, the Kröners' home is the stuff of fairy tales. Built in 1776, the house boasts a steep, pitched roof and is adorned all round with quaint black shutters emblazoned with bright yellow-green hourglass motifs framing classic diamond-shaped windows that wouldn't have looked out of place in Hansel and Gretel's fairy-tale house.

The family, comprised of Pippa, husband Joris, sons Mickey and Charlie and a Labrador called Beertje, have been calling this house home for the past two years, since they bid South Africa adieu to return to the Netherlands. After arriving in Holland and looking for a new home, Pippa and Joris remembered the sweet farmhouse in the woods near where Joris's mother lives. To their joy, it was empty. "I remembered it being very small, but my husband was so excited when he called while visiting the place," says Pippa. "It's marvellous," he said, and rented it immediately, without me seeing it. But when I first set foot over the threshold, I knew exactly what he meant. The light, the unexpected spacious rooms; I felt right at home."

AFRICAN INSPIRATION MEETS DUTCH DESIGN

Pippa's taste in interior design has clearly been influenced by the time spent in her second "homeland", South Africa. She is fond of earth, sand and clay tones. In the living room, for example, one of the walls is painted a shade of brown-grey she created in collaboration with her painter. "I think the darker shade embraces the interior and contrasts beautifully with the furniture," she says. Speaking of furniture, the majority was designed by Pippa and manufactured by carpenters, blacksmiths and upholsterers in South Africa. One of Pippa's favourites is the geometric coffee table in the living room – formerly a stable – which she had crafted from metal and injects the old-world space with a contemporary feel. The accessories echo the countryside that surrounds them: beautiful beaded necklaces from South Africa, objects made out of feathers, pottery horses that date back to when Pippa ran her own shop in the Netherlands and antique tableware shine their colours on the house. Her love of antiques is visible right through the house, from the twinkling chandelier in the dining room to the black bar chairs in the living room – both gifts from her mother-in-law.

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"THE DELIBERATE JUXTAPOSITION OF **MODERNITY** AND **TRADITION** HAS CREATED AN ATMOSPHERE THAT'S SIMULTANEOUSLY **HOMELY** AND **EXCITING**, **WELCOMING** AND **STIMULATING**"

Above, from left: Items such as the kudu horns remind the family of South Africa; coral is one of Pippa's favourite colours, seen here on a dinner service; one of the children's bedrooms is painted a blue-grey (suggested colour Plascon Double Velvet Winter Haven B2-E2-3) – a geometric rug adds a tribal touch. Opposite: The kitchen (suggested colour Plascon Double Velvet South West Sky B4-B1-4) is blue, accented with white and silver. An Art Deco-inspired mirror adds glamour.



COMING FULL CIRCLE

There is a remarkable number of round shapes to be found in the Kröners' home, including the gorgeous circular mirror in the living room that comes from South Africa. Pippa loves circles, she says, as they remind her of the sun and the circle of life. She also adores coral, the design of which can be spied on a complete coral-patterned dinner service, as well as on the upholstery of two chairs. The rest of the fabrics create an important statement, too. As a former fabric agent, Pippa finds the prettiest raw linens, shiny satins and velvets and combines them with soft furs, hemp and cotton. "I love playing with those different textures," she says. "Soft and stiff, glossy and matt; so beautiful.

I mix and match my furniture and accessories in the same way: antique and classic alongside sleek and modern. It makes an exciting interior that doesn't bore me too quickly." Every now and then, Pippa adds a pinch of black and white to the rooms, be they in geometric patterns on cushions and blankets or the upholstery of their furniture. "Sometimes it's good to detonate, to break the atmosphere by adding something black and white," she says. "It excites, but is classical at the same time." This deliberate juxtaposition of modernity and tradition by Pippa has created an atmosphere that's simultaneously homely and exciting, welcoming and stimulating – no wonder the Kröners aren't planning to go anywhere soon.



Clockwise from top left: Pippa Kroner incorporates different textures such as faux fur and linen to create interest; the walls are painted a green-grey (suggested colour: Plascon Double Velvet Hong Kong Mist EC 64), showcasing Pippa's love of earthy African tones; the house is filled with heirlooms such as this doll's house. Opposite: Layers of textures and prints combine to form a cohesive whole in the living room.



COLOUR ME HUNGRY



The bold new hues of recently revamped Cape Town fine-dining restaurant La Mouette are sure to whet the appetite of even the most discerning diner.

PHOTOGRAPHS **MICKY HOYLE**
TEXT **LISA VAN ASWEGEN**



Opposite: The entrance hall welcomes diners with its striking peacock blue (suggested Plascon colour Pristine Blue B4-A1-1) walls and original woodwork. This page: The upstairs dining area remains a touch more modern with simpler chairs. The bespoke rich red colour on the walls creates an instant feeling of warmth.

"How do you find anything these days?" Mari Vigar, co-owner of La Mouette restaurant exclaims. "You Google 'restaurant design Cape Town'. And that's how we found Liam." The reality is a bit more complex than that: after Googling, finding references and deciding on two design companies to pitch for the not insignificant job of redecorating La Mouette, which is housed in a Tudor-revival heritage building, Henry Vigar, his wife, Mari, and business partner Gerrit Bruwer were unanimous that they wanted Liam Mooney to breathe his magic into the space.

Liam sees it a bit differently: "I literally begged for the job! It was a dream to work on such an iconic building (it was once the mayor of Cape Town's residence) and restaurant."

Luckily it was a match made in creative heaven as the team at La Mouette and Liam clicked instantly. "We immediately had chemistry, we simply got each other," Mari says knowingly. "From then on we were in constant communication about the ideas; it really was a true collaboration."

After five years in the space, Mari and Henry felt that La Mouette needed a distinct revamp; something to reflect the artistry that chef Henry puts on the plate night after night with his lovingly created, seasonally inspired cuisine. "The rooms had no continuity, every room had a different wallpaper, no real identity," Mari explains. "I wanted to feel proud of the space."

As Liam had only one week to create his magic, he and his team worked around the clock to achieve just that. Firstly, all the doors, windowsills and fireplaces were completely stripped, revealing the original wood that defines the distinct character of the space. Next up, and most importantly, colour. "I wanted what I call 'burgun-gine'," Liam says, "you know, that mixture of burgundy



and aubergine, the colour that reminds you of good red wine, the perfect steak, ripe berries..." To find this colour, he went to paint designer and colour specialist Freya Lincoln to create bespoke colours for the walls. Once Liam, Henry, Mari and Gerrit were happy with the colours, Plascon was tasked with creating the paint. And what a creation it is. The deep "burgun-gine" (suggested colour Plascon Hot 'n Spicy R6-B1-1) adds richness and warmth to the dining areas and intensifies at night. Liam used a water-based varnish to create squared-off lines to define the rooms and make sure the walls don't look too flat. These varnished lines also reflect a wonderful golden glow during dinner service.

In stark contrast, the hallway and bar areas are painted in another bespoke colour, which Liam calls peacock blue (suggested colour Plascon Pristine Blue B4-A1-1). All the ceilings are painted in Plascon Cashmere in Frothy Milk (EC 7) to anchor the spaces.

Liam wanted no art on the walls... "After all," he says, "at La Mouette the art is on diners' plates." He custom-designed large rectangular mirrors to create a wonderful ambience, and to highlight the food experience. "The mirrors are my favourite part of the restaurant," Liam says, "They're made with copper and provide a darker, richer reflection."

Right on schedule, La Mouette was ready for its big reveal on its fifth birthday party in May this year. "Liam brought the space back to life with his unique approach to the building – respecting the integrity of the wood and his fearless use of colour," Mari and Henry enthuse. The feedback from regulars is very positive, Mari adds, and the staff have been rejuvenated by the makeover, too. Liam is delighted with the results: "People walk into the restaurant and know they are in a creative space." lamouette-restaurant.co.za



"I WANTED THAT
COLOUR THAT
REMINDS YOU OF
GOOD **RED WINE**,
THE PERFECT **STEAK**,
RIPE BERRIES"
– LIAM MOONEY

Opposite, from top: Liam Mooney worked his magic at La Mouette by using bespoke paint colours and stripping down all the original wooden features in the restaurant; the upstairs bar area, also painted in peacock blue (suggested colour Plascon Pristine Blue B4-A1-1), is a sophisticated space; Liam designed original light fittings to add contemporary flair to the heritage building. This page: Rich upholstery, original wood and the bespoke deep red colour of the walls make the main dining room most inviting. He used Plascon's Paint Effects Glazecoat gloss varnish to achieve the shiny strips on the walls.

DESIGN BY COMMITTEE

Three design teams. Twelve opinions. Litres of Plascon paint. These were the ingredients that made the latest season of *Win a Home* compulsory watching for DIY addicts. We look back at some décor highlights.



TEAM BLU-PRINT

Natural wood and a Scandi-inspired side table contrast with the patterned headboard.

Wall painted in Plascon Cashmere Winter Haven (B2-E2-3).

TEAM DETALE

A driftwood-inspired headboard echoes the seaside location. Wall painted in Plascon Cashmere Misty Dawn (EC 55).



If the latest season of SABC3's *Win a Home* competition showed us anything, it's that magic – and a whole lot of drama – happens when the hottest young design minds in SA are divided into teams and unleash their creativity upon empty, unpainted rooms. The premise for the second season, subtitled "Design Edition", was simple enough: for a cash prize of R100 000, 12 aspiring interior designers were given the chance to transform a series of unadorned apartments in brand-new luxury property development, Ilala Views, in Umhlanga. To make things interesting, contestants were divided into three teams from which a member was eliminated at the end of each challenge by an expert team of judges including Private Property COO Simon Bray and none other than Plascon Colour Manager Anne Roselt.

Team Bespoke started out with Renate Stuurman, Siyanda Mazibuko, Zimkita Sidumo and Larochelle Janse van Rensburg;

team Blu-Print consisted of Wanga Ngwane, Sifiso Shange, Bridgette Ramaphakele and Rochelle le Roux; while team DeTale included Jacoline Sema, Travis Hyde, Lance Surgeson and Glorinah Mabaso.

Established designers were assigned to mentor each group: Schane Anderson, co-founder of Olàlà! Interiors coached DeTale, Grant Wester from Fahrenheit Design offered his insights to BluPrint, while Ntokozo Ntuli from NT Design Box helped Bespoke do their best. Of course, when you put 12 headstrong individuals into teams with the dangling carrot of a huge cash prize, there's always going to be a bit of good-natured head-butting – but hey, that's why we all love reality TV, isn't it? Ultimately, there could only be one and, during the nail-biting finale, Jacoline managed to blow the judges' socks off with her flair and fine eye for "DeTale". In case you missed it, here are some of the décor highlights put together by the respective teams during the season.

"FOR A CASH PRIZE OF R100 000, TWELVE ASPIRING INTERIOR DESIGNERS WERE GIVEN THE CHANCE TO TRANSFORM A SERIES OF UNADORNED APARTMENTS IN A BRAND-NEW LUXURY DEVELOPMENT IN UMHLANGA"



This page, clockwise from top left: Siyanda Mazibuko, Jacoline Sema and Wanga Ngwane; Travis Hyde of team DeTale makes a minor adjustment; Rochelle le Roux and Larochelle Janse van Rensburg; Zimkita Sidumo and Wanga Ngwane; Larochelle Janse van Rensburg.

TEAM BESPOKE

Framed traditional beaded Zulu bracelets add a sense of place to this bedroom. Wall above curtain painted in Plascon Cashmere Evening Glade (G3-E2-2).

BEDROOMS

THE TEAM: BLU-PRINT

The inspiration: The goal was to bring a bit of the seaside exterior indoors, but not in an obvious way. A haven of contemporary cool was the end result.

The paint: Plascon Cashmere in Winter Haven (B2-E2-3). "The colour brought a sense of cool into the space and also made it feel bigger," says Sifiso.

The accessories: The team achieved a streamlined look with floating shelves made from reclaimed blonde timber and added bold pops of colour and interest with a headboard covered with material designed by Bridgette. White Scandi-inspired side tables flanking the bed completed the look.

THE TEAM: DETALE

The inspiration: "We wanted to design a space that was tranquil and relaxing and would make its residents feel closer to nature," says Jacoline about the team's concept.

The paint colour: Plascon Cashmere in Misty Dawn (EC 55). "We felt the colour had a balancing effect, creating a feeling of space and connection to nature," says Jacoline of the ethereal hue.

The accessories: A custom-made headboard, cleverly fashioned from two tree-branch room dividers not only established an organic feel, but also added a much-needed wow factor. A metal and glass side table contrasted with the wood headboard.

THE TEAM: BESPOKE

The inspiration: "We wanted to incorporate a subtle coastal feel, yet make the space contemporary and comfortable," says Zimkita.

The paint: Plascon Cashmere in Evening Glade (G3-E2-2). "We wanted a colour that would bring in the ocean yet still keep the bedroom feeling warm, light and inviting," explains Zimkita.

The accessories: "We used warm metallic accessories in gold, bronze and copper to bring in a luxurious feel," says Zimkita. A textured metallic charcoal wallpaper tied the look together. The team hung framed traditional Zulu beaded bracelets in different patterns above the bed. The judges were impressed by this simple, yet effective way of conveying a sense of place.

LOUNGES

70

THE TEAM: DETALE

The inspiration: "We wanted to use materials in their true form to continue the organic, inviting atmosphere we'd established in the rest of the apartment," says Jacoline.

The paint: Plascon Cashmere Starlight Express (Y5-E1-3). Jacoline explains that the hue was an obvious choice as shades of green are soothing and complement natural elements well.

The accessories: "Our custom-made wall cladding, made from reclaimed timber, was inspired by the hills of KZN," says Jacoline. The same timber was also used to create floating shelves, painted white, and eye-catching contrast was created using concrete, timber and leather elements.

THE TEAM: BLU-PRINT

The inspiration: The team wanted to pay tribute to the location of the lounge with its sweeping sea views by creating a calming yet playful space with a touch of plush.

The paint: Plascon Cashmere in Revenge (P1-E2-1). "The colour has a soothing yet passionate feel with its purple undertones," says Sifiso about the team's choice.

The accessories: The team custom-made a geometric wooden coffee table using reclaimed timber, which impressed the judges, and tied it all together with an L-shaped lounge, metallic accents and a playful plush green carpet.

THE TEAM: BESPOKE

The inspiration: "We were inspired by a picture of three Cuban grannies enjoying another day in their seemingly carefree lives," says Zimkita. "We wanted to bring the feeling of being on holiday at home into the living room."

The paint: Plascon Cashmere in Julianne Jade (G5-E2-1). "The hue was chosen to echo the sea view and complement the wallpaper, furnishings and accessories," says Zimkita.

The accessories: "The tropical fabric and cane occasional chairs definitely brought the look together," adds Zimkita. Other highlights were the glossy white TV unit made by Siyanda, and the custom-made cushions and ottomans.

"WE WANTED TO USE **MATERIALS** IN THEIR **TRUE FORM** TO CONTINUE THE **ORGANIC, INVITING ATMOSPHERE** WE'D ESTABLISHED IN THE REST OF THE APARTMENT" – JACOLINE SEMA, TEAM DETALE



TEAM DETALE

Natural materials in the form of the custom-made wooden wall cladding, coffee table and leather chair reinforce the organic feel. Wall painted in Plascon Cashmere Starlight Express (Y5-E1-3).



TEAM BLU-PRINT

Metallic accents and a plush green carpet brought the look together. The coffee table was made from reclaimed timber. Wall painted in Plascon Cashmere Revenge (P1-E2-1).

TEAM BESPOKE

The tropical fabric and cane chairs introduce a holiday feeling into the space. Wall painted in Plascon Cashmere Julianne Jade (G5-E2-1).



LONDON (ALL)ING

What to do if you have only three-and-a-half days to experience the London Design Festival? If you're Plascon Colour Manager Anne Roselt, you put on your most comfortable shoes and start powerwalking.

TEXT ANNE ROSELT

The London Design Festival, held from 19 to 27 September this year, provides a platform for designers from around the world to showcase their work across a variety of disciplines. With over 400 events, talks and exhibitions taking place around London, try as you might, it's almost impossible to get to most things in the 10 days. So with only three-and-a-half days at my disposal, careful planning was essential. Despite the limited time, I got to see almost everything I planned to and had the bonus of some glorious weather. The festival did not disappoint. These are some of the designs and designers that caught my attention.

Opposite, clockwise from top left: Graham and Green at Decorex London; Lina Design at 100% Design; Kirkby Design and Jon Burgerman at Design Junction; De Gournay at Decorex.





DECOREX

Decorex is the longest-standing design and interior show at the London Design Festival and this year's theme was "the future of luxury".

DE GOURNAY

To me, the stand that epitomised Decorex's theme the best was De Gournay, a company that specialises in hand-painted porcelain, wallpapers and fabrics. For the show they showcased four gorgeous hand-painted spaces. There were even dedicated areas where people could watch a master painter applying beautiful designs to wallpaper, and another where the company's head porcelain artist was painting and glazing.

degournay.com

HURLINGHAM – THE BATH COMPANY

I love it when design isn't taken too seriously. Hurlingham, a company that specialises in baths crafted in luxe materials such as cast iron, copper and marble, had some great inspiration for the bathroom. The baths were showcased against quirky, hand-painted backdrops.

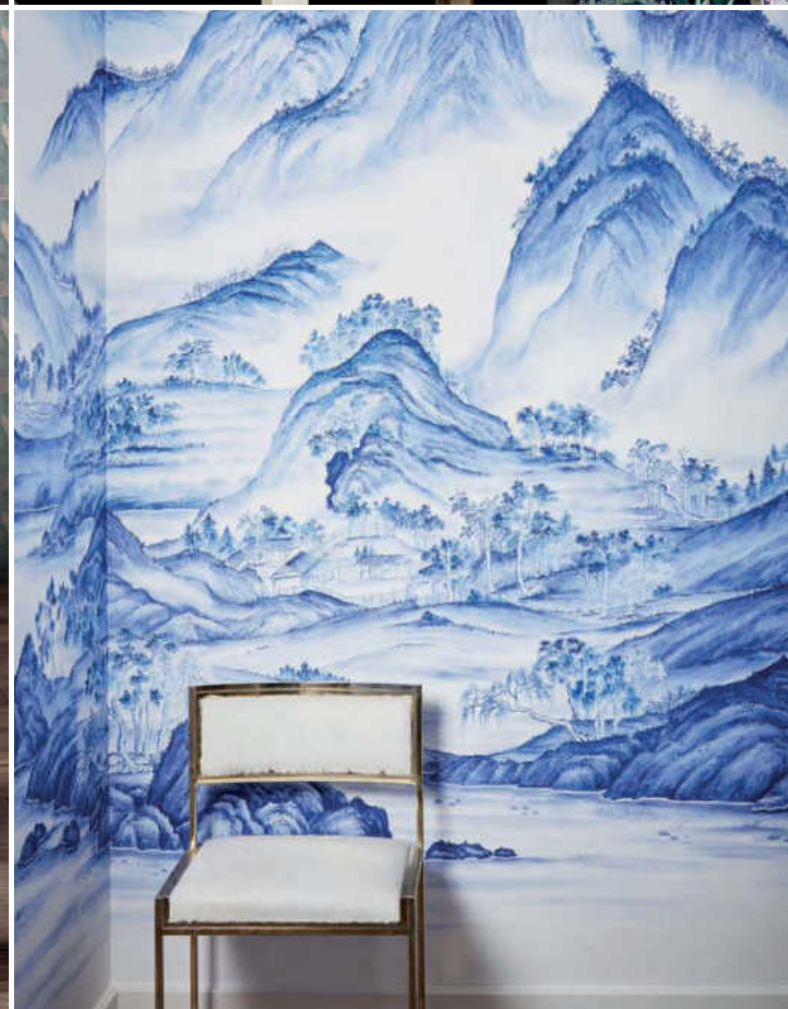
hurlinghambaths.co.uk

GRAHAM AND GREEN

Interior décor company Graham and Green's beautiful stand put nature in the spotlight. The stand's walls were clad in reclaimed wood and adorned with a variety of pot plants and a collection of exquisite butterfly and beetle prints. After seeing this stand, I noticed butterflies and bugs popping up at the other shows, too.

grahamandgreen.co.uk

Left, from top: Interior design company Graham and Green brought nature indoors at Decorex; Graham and Green's stand was clad in reclaimed wood. Opposite, clockwise from top left: Hurlingham showed baths clad in copper; De Gournay's hand-painted wallpaper stole the show; a scene of rivers and mountains on white silk at De Gournay; a mahogany-rimmed bath.



"WITH OVER 400 EVENTS, TALKS AND EXHIBITIONS TAKING PLACE AROUND LONDON,
CAREFUL PLANNING IS ESSENTIAL" – ANNE ROSELT



100% DESIGN

This year's theme, "design in colour", meant you could spend the entire day listening to designers and architects talking in detail about the subject.

LINA DESIGN

This was a brand that really capitalised on the theme. Its comfy, geometric lounge chairs – adorned in bright orange, yellow and pink upholstery – not only turned the head of many a passerby, but also offered fatigued festivalgoers the chance to sit down and take in all the inspiration.

linafurniture.com



TENT LONDON

Shoreditch and Hoxton are full of art inspiration, so Tent was a must-visit. On the way I walked past Spitalfields Market and admired the amazing graffiti, but alas, no Banksy.

ETSY UK

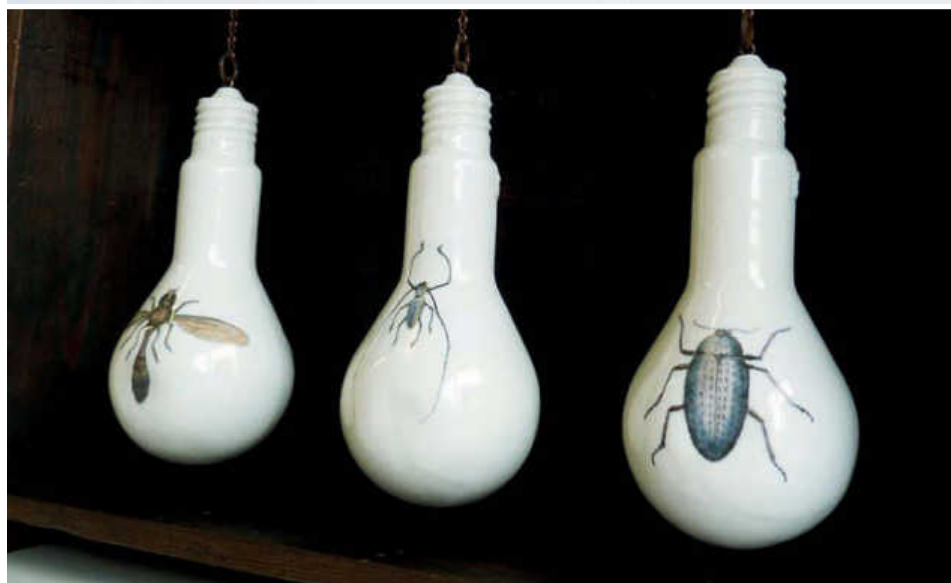
The English branch of the e-commerce site for handmade and vintage items curated an exhibition called "Four Corners of Craft" in partnership with Tent London and arts and crafts organisations from England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales. One of the designers on display was Red Earth Design, who created white lightbulbs with illustrations of insects on them – a theme I spotted at all four shows.

reearthdesign.etsy.com; etsy.com/uk

GALULA

Making everyone who passed it smile, a white- and wood-finish side table sporting bright yellow duck feet by Portuguese furniture studio Galula, proved that design is much more fun when it doesn't take itself too seriously.

galulastudio.com



Top: Portuguese studio Galula had festivalgoers smiling with its side table supported by yellow duck feet at Tent. Above, from left: Red Earth Design painted insects onto ceramic lightbulbs



DESIGN JUNCTION

My favourite of the shows, Design Junction, moved to two new venues this year – the former central St Martins College and Victoria House over the road in central London.

KIRKBY DESIGN AND JON BURGERMAN

With time constraints and an eagerness to see everything, I did not look at the floorplan properly. I got hopelessly lost, but when I did eventually find my back to the exhibition area I was lucky enough to see a sign saying "Fun this way". A true colour explosion awaited at the stand of fabric brand Kirkby Design and doodle artist Jon Burgerman, who teamed up to create a unique rainbow scrawl design fabric collection, and collaborated with furniture designer Ligne Roset for the show. This pretty much made my day.

kirkbydesign.com; jonburgerman.com

ALSO SPOTTED...

... **Adriana Tavares's** (adrianatavares.co.uk) exhibition at home décor and womenswear store Anthropologie (anthropologie.com/uk/en), showcasing gorgeous rug designs that looked like works of art.

... **Designer Alex Rasmussen's giant Pacific blue wave**, made using 700-plus anodised aluminium panels at the arts and cultural centre Somerset House (somersethouse.org.uk).

Left: Fabric brand Kirkby and doodle artist Jon Burgerman collaborated with Ligne Roset at Design Junction.

A MATTER OF STYLE

Interior designers Roche Dry and Dylan Thomaz might take different approaches to their work, but they've certainly both cracked the code to creating highly sought-after spaces. So what makes them tick? Read on.

PHOTOGRAPHS **EGG DESIGNS, DYLAN THOMAZ AND JUSTIN DINGWALL**
PORTRAITS **CLINTON FRIEDMAN AND JAN RAS** INTERVIEWS **ANNETTE KLINGER**





ROCHE DRY, EGG DESIGNS

Roche approaches interior and furniture design with a sense of playfulness, but always with an eye on functionality and comfort.

How would you describe your aesthetic?

Unexpected eclectic African luxury without clichés. It's often glamorous, always tactile and exploratory. It can be playful, but is always layered and considered.

What are your favourite colours to work with?

It changes all the time. At Egg Designs we mostly work with a rich, tonally exciting neutral palette, but regularly play with strong colour blocking, which allows for unexpected surprises. We often work with dark teal, more on the blue than the green side. It allows neutrals to pop and easily accommodates the addition of colours such as yellows, purples, reds, pinks and browns.

What inspires your work?

Observation. You have to remain curious; discovery drives inspiration.

Tips for someone who wants to update their interior on a budget?

Research carefully, put together a storyboard for yourself and then test your choices before you jump in. We obviously believe professional advice is the first prize, as consulting with an expert will often reduce costly mistakes.

What décor and colour trends are currently exciting you?

At the moment, it's pink. Not pink in the way it's usually perceived, but rather how it plays off other colours. We love how pink and terracotta just work together. Throw in a deep sea green, coral and some mustard ... the possibilities are endless.

Any design gurus whose work you admire?

I love the bravery of David Hicks, the simplicity of Jean-Louis Deniot and the surreal designs of Garouste & Bonetti. At the moment, I also love the works of Vincenzo de Cotiis and Domore Studio, who are more contemporary.

Your best advice for young designers?

It may sound clichéd, but don't aspire to be a design "rock star". Learn your craft, develop your style and uniqueness, and everything else follows.

eggdesigns.co.za

Opposite and left: Roche Dry of Durban-based Egg Designs loves using stylish African motifs against backgrounds of a tonal neutral palette with touches of glamour.



**DYLAN THOMAZ,
STUDIO DYLAN THOMAZ**

Describing himself as a curator of spaces, Dylan is strong believer that interiors should reflect people's personal stories.

How would you describe your design aesthetic?

Future classic, a mixture of different worlds that all come together in a sophisticated, harmonious way. I especially like to combine different textures and dramatic statement pieces.

What inspires your work?

My clients and their stories and adventures, and putting them together in a way that inspires them.

What are your favourite colours to work with?

I love using white, black and green. White is the perfect base colour for any environment and adding touches of black in furniture pieces adds the sophistication that every space deserves. I love finishing off a look with greenery, because it adds life and depth. I don't like off-white colours – they all seem very vanilla.

Your favourite materials?

Currently, brass, black metal, leather and wood. I find these different elements complement each other perfectly and that makes me smile.

Any tips for someone who wants to update their interior on a tight budget?

Follow your favourite interior designer on their social media platforms to be inspired, find the common thread and apply it. Otherwise contact us at Studio Dylan Thomaz!

Colour trends you're loving?

The colours from the 2016 Plascon Colour Forecast's Heirloom palette intrigue me, especially once you add the wood and metal look. With a white base it collectively adds a sophisticated, future-classic look.

Any design gurus whose work you admire?

I admire Nate Burkes's aesthetic and how he captures his clients' spaces.

Your best advice to young designers?

Spend as much time freelancing as you can to get exposure in the industry and be inspired by other people's aesthetics. dylanthomaz.com

Left and opposite: Dylan Thomaz believes that white is the perfect base for any room and uses touches of black to create a classy look. He uses greenery for colour and depth.



**"I ESPECIALLY LIKE TO COMBINE DIFFERENT TEXTURES AND DRAMATIC
STATEMENT PIECES" – DYLAN THOMAZ**



EVERYTHING IS ILLUMINATED

The stage is set with a range of atmospheric hues from Plascon, which acts as the perfect backdrop to the dramatic chandeliers made by lighting company Willowlamp Design

PHOTOGRAPHS **JUSTIN PATRICK** PRODUCTION AND STYLING **TARN DE VILLIERS**



Left: Wall painted in Plascon Cashmere Bay Bridge (G7-B1-1). Willowlamp Design Protea chandelier in an ombre of brass, copper and smoke. Table and chairs, Vogel. Wire bowl, Indigi Designs.

This page: Wall painted in Plascon Cashmere Dreamsicle (R7-A2-1). Willowlamp Design Extra Long Pod in black. Chair, Indigi Designs. Flower tables, Vogel. Rug, Fibre Designs.

“NOT ONLY IS
PLASCON’S
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DE VILLIERS

“PLASCON’S PASTEL TINT IS THE PERFECT
PLAYMATE FOR THIS **WHIMSICAL DESIGN**
AND IMBUES THE SPACE WITH A SENSE OF
FASHION-FORWARD FUN” – TARN DE VILLIERS

Wall painted in Plascon
Cashmere Pastel Tint
(G7-B2-2). Willowlamp Design
Fuchsia chandelier in an
ombre of copper and smoke.
Chair, Vogel. Bed, Pedersen +
Lennard. Geo table,
Indigi Designs. Cow hide,
stylist's own.

"THE **DEEP, MOODY INTENSITY**
OF PLASCON'S DEEP SEA REEF
BEAUTIFULLY COMPLEMENTS THE
ILLUMINATED CHANDELIER – LIKE
A BIOLUMINESCENT JELLYFISH
GLOWING IN THE DEEP OF THE
OCEAN." – TARN DE VILLIERS

BLUEPRINT FOR LiViNG

Not sure how to introduce Plascon's colour of the year, Atlantic Beach, into your space? Stylist Julie Kenney shares some tips on utilising the vibrant blue to maximum effect.



PHOTOGRAPHS **MICKY HOYLE** PRODUCTION **JULIE KENNEY** PRODUCTION ASSISTANT **CHARL EDWARDS**

Above: Paint effects in Plascon Double Velvet Panorama Lights (Y4-A1-2), Palm Frond (G4-A1-2), Acacia Bloom (R2-B2-1) and Atlantic Beach (B5-B1-1). Yellow bowl, Country Road. Dipping bowl, @home. Wrapping paper, Pezula Interiors. Paintbrush, Ceramic Matters. Wooden rulers, Créma Design. Journal, Typo. Bamboo plate (painted in Plascon Velvaglo Atlantic Beach B5-B1-1), Woolworths. Opposite: Wall painted in Plascon Cashmere Atlantic Beach (B5-B1-1). Pegboard painted in Plascon Double Velvet Atlantic Beach (B5-B1-1) and Oceanos (B6-C1-1). Kronotex Trend oak white laminate flooring, Flooring Warehouse. Postcard (on pegboard), Michael Taylor. UP B desk, La Grange Interiors. Louis Poulsen AJ table lamp, Créma Design. Book, The Space. Ceramic vase and espresso cup, both Country Road. Pencil trays, La Grange Interiors. Pencil holder, The Space. Scissors and ruler, Créma Design. Stackaway chair, @home. Paper bin, LIM.

"ALLOW BLUE TO ENERGISE YOUR WORKSPACE BY PAINTING A WALL AND PEGBOARD IN ATLANTIC BEACH. ADD A GEOMETRIC DETAIL TO THE PEGBOARD AND START PINNING YOUR INSPIRATION."





Above: Wall painted in Plascon Double Velvet in Acacia Bloom (R2-B2-1) and shelf painted in Plascon Waterbased Velvagio in the same colour. Bulldog clip painted in Plascon Velvagio in Atlantic Beach (B5-B1-1). Polaroid images, clockwise from top left: Crockery, @home. Ceramic spreader, Country Road. Scatter cushions, Lula Fabrics. Brass basket, Pezula Interiors. Artist's hand, The Deckle Edge. Vase and crockery, Country Road. Jug, The Space. Side table, Weylandts. Books, LIM and The Space. Hexagonal holder, The Space. Ceramic vase, Country Road. Desk, La Grange Interiors. Twine, Typo.

Opposite: Wall and shelf painted in Plascon Double Velvet Atlantic Beach (B5-B1-1). Skirting board painted in Plascon Waterbased Velvagio in Panorama Lights (Y4-A1-2). Renee Rossouw Favourite Dot yellow wallpaper, Robin Sprong. Kronotex Trend oak white laminate flooring, Flooring Warehouse. On shelf, from left: Artwork in frame painted in Plascon Velvagio Panorama Lights (Y4-A1-2), Michael Taylor. Adler frame, Country Road. White quilted bedspread and pillows, Lala Linen. Olina reversible quilt, Country Road. Touchee Feely scatter cushion, Stable. Metal Spook side table, La Grange Interiors. Token side table, Weylandts. Rye vase, Country Road. Lacquer vase, La Grange Interiors. Hourglass, Mr Price Home.

**“CREATE IMPACT BY PAINTING A WALL IN A PLAIN COLOUR SUCH AS ATLANTIC BEACH
AND USING A FLOATING SHELF TO CONTRAST IT WITH PATTERN.”**





Above: Wall painted in Plascon Double Velvet in Atlantic Beach (B5-B1-1), Acacia Bloom (R2-B2-1) and Palm Frond (G4-A1-2).
Lee Brom crystal lightbulbs, Créma Design. Brass pendant light, Pezula Interiors.

Opposite: Wall painted in Plascon Double Velvet in Mandarin Tusk (EC 49), Atlantic Beach (B5-B1-1) and Acacia Bloom (R2-B2-1). Cork milking stool, Wiid Design. Brass bottle, LIM. Three-seater Firenze bench, Pedersen + Lennard. Glass vase (on bench), Country Road. Ceramic Soma planters, Wiid Design for Indigenus. Pols Potten canal house, Pezula Interiors. Hipster lamp, @home (painted in Plascon Velvagio Acacia Bloom (R2-B2-1). Brass pot, LIM. All plants, Starke Ayres. Vortex rug, Superbalist. Green glass vase (on floor), Wiid Design and Ceramic Matters. Jug (on floor), Stable. Magis Cu clock, Créma Design.

"COMBINE ACCENT COLOURS THROUGH VARIOUS MEDIUMS. A WALL PAINTED IN POPS OF BLUE AND PINK PAIRED WITH A BOLD BLUE RUG MAKES A GRAPHIC STATEMENT."



STEP BY STEP

MAGIC MOUNTAINS

The hills are most definitely alive in this stunning wall feature in which solid fields of colour have been created using hues from Plascon's Element palette.

PHOTOGRAPHS **SHAVAN RAHIM** PRODUCTION **SUMIEN BRINK**
PAINT EFFECTS **JULIAN AND ILARIA LOUW**



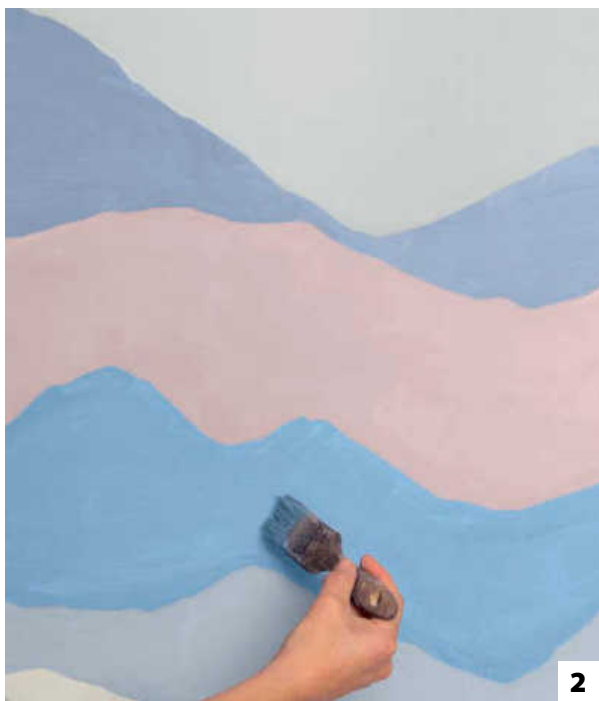
YOU NEED: Plascon Cashmere in Mamello (B5-A2-1), Ravine (EC 62), Antique Petal (EC 43), Aluminium Snow (EC 45), Revenge (P1-E2-1) and Savanna (R3-E2-3). **Other:** Three paintbrushes, ranging from small to large, coloured chalk and a drop cloth. **TIME NEEDED:** Two days

THE PREP: Prepare the walls you wish to paint, filling any pockmarks and sanding them until smooth when dry. Wash the walls to remove any dust, then allow to dry completely. Use a drop cloth to protect your floors and furniture.



1

GET THE LOOK Step 1: Using the main image as a visual guide, draw the outlines of the mountains in irregular lines using the coloured chalk.



2

Step 2: Working your way from the top downwards, start filling in the areas with the paint colour of your choice. Use the smallest brush to paint the edges of each area, then fill in the rest using the medium or large brush. Take care not to paint too thickly on the edges.



3

Step 3: Wait for all the paint to dry completely before adding second coats to each section.

STEP BY STEP

PHOTOGRAPHS **SHAVAN RAHIM** PRODUCTION **SUMIEN BRINK**
PAINT EFFECTS **JULIAN AND ILARIA LOUW**

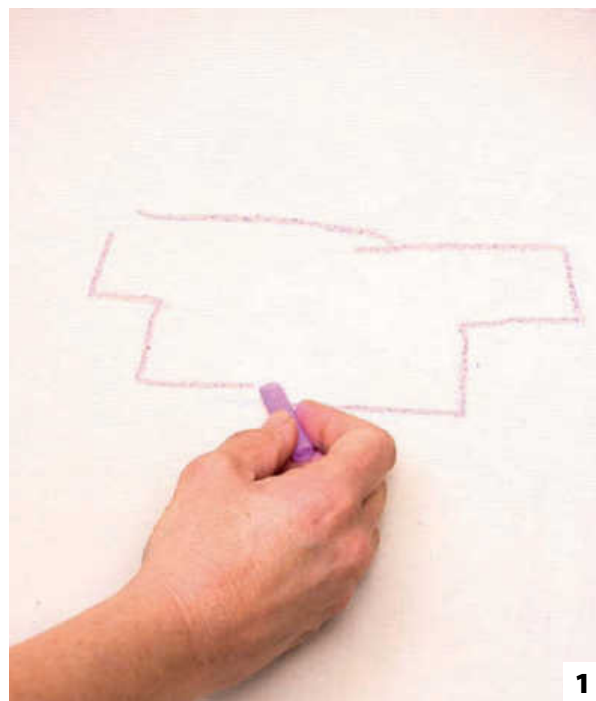
DISTRESSED FOR SUCCESS

Rich, opulent hues and texture come together in this dramatic, weathered look utilising shades from Plascon's Heirloom colour collection.



YOU NEED: Plascon Cashmere in Nautilous (B6-D1-1), Distant Storm (G7-E1-3), Peach Dawn (O4-B2-1), Red Wine (R1-D1-1), Black Bean (EC 71), Beach Wood (Y3-D2-1), Starlight Express (Y5-E1-3) and Peak Season (Y5-B1-3).
Other: Medium paintbrush, coloured chalk and a drop cloth.
TIME NEEDED: Three days

THE PREP: Prepare the walls by filling any holes or cracks using crack filler and sanding it until smooth when dry. Wash the walls with water and allow to dry completely. Use a drop cloth to protect your floors and furniture.



1

GET THE LOOK Step 1: Using a medium-sized paintbrush, paint the area with the base coat, Plascon Double Velvet Antique Petal EC 43. Using the chalk, draw basic colour areas.



2

Step 2: Paint each colour, starting with the large areas of colour, in thick horizontal stripes. Gently overlap and blur the colours in a criss-cross motion.



3

Step 3: Add smaller areas of colour in horizontal stripes, continuously blurring the colours in a criss-cross motion to create a layered, weathered look.

GRADUAL IMPROVEMENT

Ombre isn't going anywhere, so why not take a page out of the Plascon Colour Forecast and create the effect in your home with hues from the Discovery palette?

PHOTOGRAPHS **SHAVAN RAHIM** PRODUCTION **SUMIEN BRINK**
PAINT EFFECTS **JULIAN AND ILARIA LOUW**



YOU NEED: Plascon Polvin in Chalkboard (P1-E1-1), Jessie's Blue (B2-C2-1), Light Blue Green (G6-A2-2), Morning Sigh (EC 6), Purple Path (P2-A1-3) and Big Blue Star (P1-A1-1).

Other: Six paintbrushes, coloured chalk and a drop cloth.

TIME NEEDED: One day

THE PREP: Ensure that your wall is smooth and free of any irregularities. If there are any holes or cracks, fill them using crack filler and sand until smooth when dry. Wash the wall with water and let it dry completely. Use a drop cloth to protect your floor and furniture.



1

GET THE LOOK Step 1: Using the main image as a guide, draw six curved lines. Have one brush ready for each colour. Apply a layer of each paint colour in the order you prefer. We used Big Blue Star on top, Jessie's Blue below it, followed by Light Blue Green, Morning Sigh and Purple Path.



2

Step 2: Keeping the edges of the paintbrushes wet, carefully brush the colours into each other where they intersect, using smooth, continuous brushstrokes. Wait for the first coat to dry before applying a second coat in the same manner as the first.



3

Step 3: Using a flat square of firm plastic or cardboard, apply one colour to the square, then gently drag the square from the chosen colour into the next colour, doing the same with the adjoining colours. This might take a few tries to get right.

OUTSIDE IN

An indoor patio? You bet. When you're the folks behind the inspirational Plascon SPACES Showroom, thinking outside the proverbial box is key to enticing passers-by.

PHOTOGRAPHS **TWIN PEAKS STUDIO** TEXT **ANNETTE KLINGER**

"We wanted to create something that was cost effective, visually evocative, but also unpretentious," says Plascon paint effect and colour specialist, Claire Bond, who collaborated with designer Collette Angelucci to create an eye-catching patio installation in the Plascon SPACES Showroom at Joburg's Design Quarter between August and October this year. "The concept was to inspire people who live in small spaces like an apartment to use their balconies cleverly, as they do in Europe, and make the area usable and pleasurable."

With summer looming, it made perfect sense for the SPACES Showroom to inform visitors of Plascon's exceptional range of outdoor coatings, known for their durability, hardiness and, of course, good looks. First to be transformed, were the walls. "We painted them in Plascon Micatex in a colour called Cape Fynbos (BBO 608)," says Claire. "Micatex has a matt appearance and fine texture, which we used to enhance the outdoor feeling of this exterior patio space. Cape Fynbos is one of Plascon's standard colours and reminds me of the South African bush." Equally eye-catching were the sheets of corrugated roof tiling affixed to the wall, showcasing another of Plascon's premium exterior products, Nu Roof. Claire and Collette decided to continue

the earthy palette by painting them in a series of greys, including Earth Shadow (TRP 206), Atmosphere Grey (TRP 200), Moonlit Sky (TRP 210) and Ashen Sky (TRP 214)

Highlighting Plascon's eco awareness, there was a fair amount of upcycling that took place during the revamp. Empty Plascon paint tins were used as potplant holders and old wooden pallets were transformed into patio couches and old-fashioned swings, then brightened up with a lick of Plascon's Polvin in White.

To tie everything together, Collette was mindful of incorporating materials that could withstand the temperature fluctuations of the outdoors. "She selected rope, wood and sisal to introduce an earthy organic character, rustic enough to feel in touch with nature, but still sumptuous enough to feel comfortable," explains Claire. And, since the Showroom is all about introducing visitors to the wide world of colour, bright accents were added in the shape of a bright red ladder, ink-blue animal

hide and belted cushions.

Ultimately, it was an installation you couldn't pass by without having your interest piqued, and it succeeded in inspiring its fair share of visitors to take this gorgeous look where it's destined to be – outside.

For bookings, email spaces@plascon.co.za; tel: 011 465 8693/4.





ALL DECKED OUT

Plascon Woodcare Natural Deck coating breathes life back into wood, and takes the environment into consideration, too.

TEXT **ANNETTE KLINGER**

THE NATURAL CHOICE

There's no arguing the fact that our harsh South African sun can be quite relentless, especially during the summer months. And, while you're making the most of the hot weather by entertaining friends and family on your wooden deck outside, you don't want to have to feel like hiding in a corner due to its dull, cracked surface. That said, you also don't want to use a varnish that is in any way harmful to the environment. Why not choose Plascon Woodcare Natural Deck Coating?

ITS PROPERTIES

Plascon Woodcare Natural Deck Coating's advanced water-based, low-odour formulation is easy to apply and designed to penetrate deep into wood to offer maximum protection. Similar to the natural oils found in wood, it rejuvenates and safeguards your deck's colour and integrity. The coating also seals and protects the timber from moisture, minimises cracking and the build-up of mould, acts as a protective shield from the sun's harmful ultraviolet radiation and boasts excellent wear resistance. If you want a good product to coat hard wood such as teak or balau, this is the one.

AN ECO WARRIOR

The natural deck coating bears the ECOKIND™ logo, meaning that the environment has been taken into consideration throughout the development of the product, which is very

low in VOCs (volatile organic compounds). Added good news for environmentally conscious DIYers is that, since the coating is water-based, you don't need to fuss with any solvents when cleaning your brushes.

HOW TO RESTORE YOUR DECK

By now, you should be convinced about what a superior product Plascon Woodcare Natural Deck Coating is. Read on if you'd like to know exactly how to use it.

1. Start by preparing your deck's surface. Remove any existing varnish using a hand-held sander or, if you're tackling a large area, hire an industrial sander. It's critical to get into the grooves of the deck.
2. Once your sanding is complete, apply thinners to a wet cloth and wipe down the surface to remove the dust. Do not use turpentine to wipe away the dust – thinners is best.
3. Apply the Woodcare Natural Deck Coating in a very even, thin layer, using a brush. Once the coating is dry, use a sheet of 220-grit sandpaper and lightly sand the surface. Remove the dust and apply a second thin, even layer of the coating.
4. Because the product is water-based, on a sunny day it will dry within two hours to a natural finish rather than a high-gloss, shiny finish. The final finish looks unvarnished and natural, but it has all the protective qualities you need.



Plascon Woodcare Natural Deck Coating is available in one-litre and five-litre cans in the following colours: Clear (WWV 1), Light Oak (WWV 2), Teak (WWV 3), Oregon (WWV 4), Imbuia (WWV 5) and Mahogany (WWV 6).



MAE PAKDOUST

The owner of Mae Artisan Rugs reveals the colours that she loves and how she stays inspired.

Which cool international colour trends have you spotted in your line of work? I'm seeing loads of soft, feminine hues such as ballerina pinks and rose gold, as well as pastels paired with touches of turquoise. Mauves, teals and chartreuses are also popping up everywhere.

Which colours aren't you a fan of? Greys with green undertones, golds that are too yellow, browns that are muddy, heavy reds and whites with yellow undertones.

Which hues looks are you excited about seeing in kitchens, bathrooms and bedrooms? I love the look of English walnut accented with copper in kitchens, and for bathrooms I think wooden finishes complemented with white and slate are modern, yet classic. In bedrooms I'm seeing lots of soft greys with accents of soft mauves and blue, the combination of which makes for quite a dramatic, yet tranquil look.

How do you remain inspired? Putting together a good Pinterest storyboard does wonders for fuelling my creative process. And nature and the Orient always inspire me.

What was one of your favourite recent colourful projects? I created a rug in striking jewel tones using modern wools and silks.

What were your favourite colours of 2015? Definitely rose gold and emerald green!

www.maerugs.com



KITTY DOUGLAS-JONES

The marketing director of Douglas Jones Mosaics shoots the breeze on everything from the hues she can't get enough of, to the trends that have caught her eye.

Tell us a bit more about Douglas Jones. Douglas Jones has an in-house creative assembly department where we recreate patterns and wallpapers to a client's specific needs. To date we have created many unique projects created here – from coffee shops to retail stores looking for bespoke patterns, which we've produced with outstanding results!

What inspires Douglas Jones's designs? We have to keep abreast of what's happening in Europe and all the fashion capitals of the world, so we follow top designers and mosaic suppliers. We also visit various trade shows around the world, from the Cersaie Fair in Italy and Cevisama in Spain to Coverings in the USA.

Any cool décor trends you've recently noticed? Geometric shapes are everywhere! Hexagons, chevrons, cubes, fabric patterns digitally printed onto tiles and mosaics – even the penny round has made a comeback! People are bolder with their colour choices and far more primary colours are being used in living areas. Contemporary and neutral interior design will always be around, but for now it's taken a back seat to brighter colours and contrasts in textures.

What colours are you currently loving? I'm especially loving Plascon's 2016 Colour of the Year, Atlantic Beach (B5-B1-1). It's sublime!

What colours are you favouring for kitchens, bathrooms and bedrooms? I've noticed bolder colours and geometric shapes being featured in kitchens and bathrooms. More risk is being taken, which is great to see. I also love to be able to offer these choices to clients.

Lastly, what were your favourite colours of 2015? Pantone's Marsala was very unique and original, and I will never tire of greens, aquas and blues.

www.douglasjones.co.za

KATRIN HERRMANN-VAN DYK

The sales director of Hertex reveals her favourite colour combinations, the hues she avoids and which ones made an impression on her in 2015.

Which recent projects at Hertex have excited you? Our latest collection, called Digi Flora, which consists of colourful, tropical, digital prints on cotton base cloths.

What is currently inspiring Hertex? Nature in all its forms, from abundant foliage to hand-drawn images of animals.

Any cool colour trends you've recently noticed? I'm spotting loads of chalky pastels such as mint, coral pink, nude and sorbet lemon, and I've also noticed that accessories in rose gold and light copper are very popular.

Are there any colours you're steering clear of? Any shade of purple. Although we see it coming through every year in the trend forecast books, it always lands up on the sale shelf. The same goes for dark brown with a chestnut undertone, periwinkle blue, as well as cream with a yellow undertone.

Which colour combinations are you currently loving? Mustard and navy; mint and grey; lemon and silver grey; and emerald and teal.

Which colours are you seeing in kitchens, bathrooms and bedrooms? In kitchens, I'm noticing copper and rose gold accessories with raw wood, as well as high-gloss white and marble finishes. For bathrooms, classic white with mustard and Santorini blue accessories seem to be trending, and in bedrooms, chalky pastels with broken white and silver grey are having a moment.

How do you go about putting together a look? Start with a focal point of what you love and build around it.

Which colours were your favourites in 2015? Emerald and sapphire.

www.hertex.co.za



THERESA VENTER

The marketing manager of Floorworx tells us why trendy copper is a hue to be reckoned with and why she's not a big fan of yellow.

What is currently inspiring Floorworx? The artisanal trend. At Floorworx we call it our "MADE" trend. I love the hand-crafted, solid wood furniture and creative, one-of-a-kind lighting and décor pieces.

Any cool colour trends you've recently noticed? Copper is a hue that's starting to make itself felt in the design industry. This glowing colour doesn't overwhelm, but still steals the show. Because copper has a warm quality and can be finished in different tones, it goes well with nearly any interior design.

Any colours you're steering clear of? I am not a fan of yellow. According to colour specialists, yellow is an eye irritant. That said, yellow is the first colour the human eye tends to notice, so it can be very effective in small doses. It can help you draw attention to an item when used as an accent colour. Also, using yellow in softer tints or in small quantities may not be such a turn-off.

What colour combinations do you currently love? No-fail neutrals such as sage leaf, stone, cream, driftwood grey and grey-blue all beautifully complement one another.

Which colours are you favouring for kitchens, bathrooms and bedrooms? For kitchens, neutrals such as classic white, a warm beige, grey – the latest go-to neutral – and soothing sage. In bedrooms, I'd suggest any colours you really love, but that said, apparently green is one of the best colours for bedrooms because it has elements of both warm and cool, and there is a wide range of tints from which to choose. In bathrooms, combinations of stone and wood ceramic tiles are everywhere and my personal favourite.

www.floorworx.co.za

ASK PLASCON

Has winter taken its toll on your house? Plascon offers some expert advice on how to make it look spic and span again this summer.

Which is the best paint type and colour to use on a roughly screeded concrete floor? And how does one prime the surface before painting it?

The most popular and practical colour is Grey (TFY 6000). Use rough sandpaper to remove the high points (the areas where the paint always wears away) on the floor. Use a wire brush to remove loose cement and residue on the floor. Sweep and vacuum. Apply one coat of Plascon Concrete Floor Prep (FCS 1), an adhesion promoter for concrete floors. Once it's cured, apply two coats of Plascon Floor Paint (FPT) tinted to the required colour.

After winter, our roof is looking a bit worse for wear and we need to clean and paint it. How do we go about this and is there a specific product and colour you can recommend that is resistant to fading?

Start by washing the entire roof surface with a solution of 500 g Polycell sugar soap in 5 litres of water. Clean with a high-pressure water jet to remove the solution, chalk and dirt. Once dry, apply two coats of Plascon

Nuroof Cool (TRP 200 range) using a brush, roller or airless spray. Allow at least two hours' drying time between coats. Generally, darker roof paint colours fade quicker due to UV and weather elements, but Plascon Nuroof Cool is formulated with Herotech Enviroshield, which protects your roof from the harsh South African sun and pollutants, and it reflects the sun's harmful rays off the roof.

I often see sugar soap mentioned in SPACES magazine. What exactly is it and why is it always recommended for cleaning walls?

Polycell sugar soap powder is a gentle yet powerful alkaline cleaner used for general-purpose cleaning, including all painted surfaces. It's great for using on paint because it effectively removes grease and grime from the paint film without weakening or destroying the paint itself.

We have a metal fireplace that needs a coat of paint after using it almost constantly during winter. Do I paint over the old paint or should I sand it down and use a rust protector before painting?

If the paint is still in good condition, sand it lightly to create a key (grip) for the coating to follow. Apply two coats of Plascon Fireplace paint, allowing two hours' drying time between coats.

What is the difference between interior and exterior paints? Is it okay to use an exterior paint on interior walls, for example?

The main difference between good-quality interior and exterior products is the UV and weather resistance that an exterior product offers, and the low VOC and washability an interior paint has. Exterior products can be used inside, but interior products should not be used on exterior surfaces.

We live in Muizenberg, where even plastic rusts! Our metal light switch covers are showing signs of rust. How should I revive them?

If the light switches are made of mild steel you can remove the rust using Plascon's Removall Rust Remover & Concrete etcher. Ensure that the areas to be treated are clean, dry and free from oil and grease. Apply an even layer of Removall Rust Remover & Concrete Etcher onto the area using a brush, roller or cloth. The time required to remove the rust depends on the type and age of the rust. Light rust can be lifted in 15 minutes, but heavier rust may require longer or a second application. Rinse off the product thoroughly using warm soapy water, then dry immediately. Finish with two coats of Plascon Velvaglo, which can be applied directly to the substrate.

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LIFE'S IN THE DETAILS

Lorraine Loots, who is renowned for her meticulously crafted miniature paintings of everything from hotdogs to sloths, offers SPACES some insight into her artistic process.

PHOTOGRAPHS **FRANCOIS VENTER** AND **LORRAINE LOOTS** INTERVIEW **ANNETTE KLINGER**



Ironically, the concept of my miniature paintings came about after I had decided that I didn't want to pursue a career as an artist. I didn't want to stop painting though, so I constructed this borderline-OCD project where I had

to spend an hour a day creating something. The only thing I could finish in that time frame was a miniature.

I've always loved detail. Painting smaller pictures allows me to put in the amount of detail I want to. I also love the intimacy of the process.

It's a tough choice, but if I had to choose my favourite colours to paint in, I'd pick crimson or ochre.

I've painted in some crazy places:

during a 26-hour bus trip, on the floor of a room in Paris, and in the foothills of the Himalayas. But it's nice to return to the comfort of my own desk in my studio – my favourite space.

At times, my studio is so chaotic that I need to clear a 12 x 12 cm space on my desk amid the piles of papers, paints, plants and figurines just to be able to work, but I'll

spend an hour erasing and rewriting a letter that's a fraction of a millimetre too low.

My most colourful possession is a Turkish carpet my husband Mark and I bought on honeymoon. It's pink, green, blue and cream, combined in simple kilim patterns.

The colour that takes me to my happy place is mustard. It's just so warm and friendly. There were a lot of mustard elements at our wedding, so I think the colour reminds me of good times, too.

I'm not a big fan of lime green.

It hurts my eyes!

My work is inspired by nature, books, galaxies and food.

See more of Lorraine's work at paintingsforants.com **and follow her on Instagram and Twitter** (@lorraineloots). Her book, *365 Paintings for Ants*, is available at selected Exclusive Books stores.

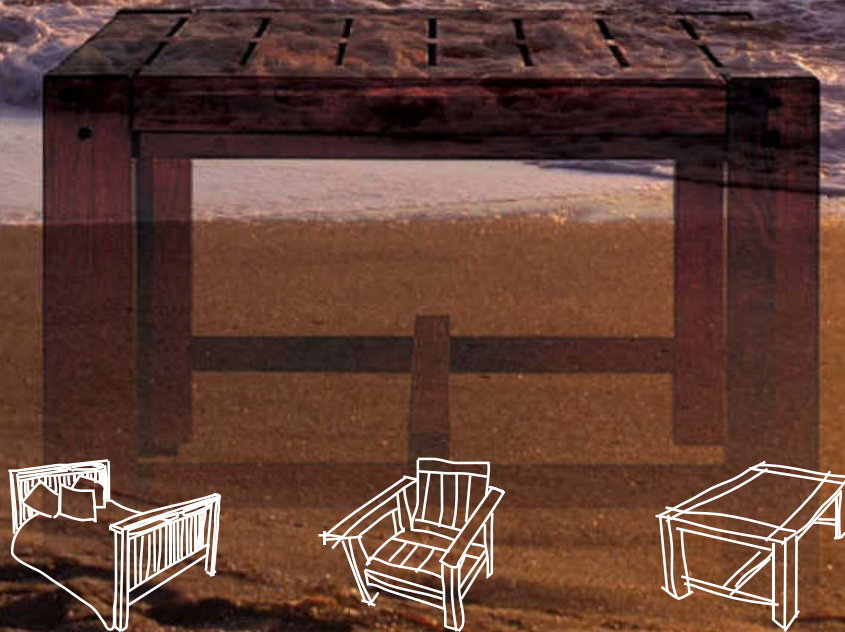
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T's and C's apply. For more information contact the Plascon Advisory Centre 0860 20 40 60 or visit www.plascon.co.za

